General Assembly

Distr.: General
30 April 2010

Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 63 (*b*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/64/L.39/Rev.1 and Add.1)*]

64/252. Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa,[1] its resolution 53/92 of 7 December 1998 and subsequent annual resolutions, including resolutions 60/223 of 23 December 2005, 61/230 of 22 December 2006, 62/275 of 11 September 2008 and 63/304 of 23 July 2009, as well as its resolutions 62/179 of 19 December 2007 and 63/267 of 31 March 2009 on the New Partnership for Africa's Development, and 59/213 of 20 December 2004, 61/296 of 17 September 2007 and 63/310 of 14 September 2009 on cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union,

Recalling also, in this context, Security Council resolutions 1809 (2008) of 16 April 2008 on peace and security in Africa, 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 and 1820 (2008) of 19 June 2008 on women and peace and security, 1366 (2001) of 30 August 2001 on the role of the Council in the prevention of armed conflicts, 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005 on children and armed conflict, 1625 (2005) of 14 September 2005 on strengthening the effectiveness of the role of the Council in conflict prevention, particularly in Africa, and 1631 (2005) of 17 October 2005 on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security,

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2] through which world leaders reaffirmed their commitment to addressing the special needs of Africa, and its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006,

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 45* (A/56/45).

[2] See resolution 60/1.

Please recycle

Recalling the political declaration on Africa's development needs adopted at the high-level meeting on Africa's development needs on 22 September 2008,[3]

1. *Takes note* of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[4] and welcomes recent developments in addressing such causes and other efforts in conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping and post-conflict peacebuilding undertaken by African countries, African regional organizations and the United Nations system;

2. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen the synergy between Africa's economic and social development programmes and its peace and security agenda;

3. *Also reaffirms* its commitment to the full and speedy implementation of the provisions of the political declaration on Africa's development needs;[3]

4. *Further reaffirms* its request that the Secretary-General submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report in accordance with paragraph 24 of resolution 63/304.

70th plenary meeting
8 February 2010

[3] See resolution 63/1.

[4] A/64/210.

General Assembly

Distr.: General
10 May 2010

Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 49

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/64/L.30/Rev.2 and Add.1)*]

64/253. International Day of Nowruz[1]

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, in particular the achievement of international cooperation in the economic, social and cultural fields,

Recalling its resolution 56/6 of 9 November 2001 on the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations,

Recalling also the Declaration of the Principles of International Cultural Cooperation, adopted on 4 November 1966 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[2]

Affirming the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, adopted on 2 November 2001 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[3] including its appeal for greater solidarity on the basis of recognition of cultural diversity, of awareness of the unity of humankind and of the development of intercultural exchanges,

Taking into consideration the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, adopted on 17 October 2003 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[4] and recognizing the importance of safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage, inter alia, social practices, rituals and festive events, at both the national and international levels,

Considering the interdependence between the intangible cultural heritage and the tangible cultural and natural heritage,

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[1] Nowruz (Novruz, Navruz, Nooruz, Nevruz, Nauryz) means new day and is celebrated on 21 March of each year; its spelling and pronunciation may vary according to country.

[2] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Fourteenth Session, Paris, 1966, Resolutions*, chap. IV, resolution 8.

[3] Ibid., *Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum, *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 25, annex I.

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2368, No. 42671.

Please recycle

Welcoming the inclusion of Nowruz in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 30 September 2009,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome, adopted at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on 16 September 2005,[5] which recognizes, inter alia, that all cultures and civilizations contribute to the enrichment of humankind,

Stressing the importance of raising public awareness through education, media and cultural activities in order to foster knowledge of national cultures, world cultural heritage and cultural diversity, which are essential for strengthening global peace and implementing international cooperation,

Reaffirming that civilizational achievements constitute the collective heritage of mankind, providing a source of inspiration and progress for humanity at large,

Emphasizing the need to achieve an objective understanding of all civilizations and to enhance constructive interaction and cooperative engagement among civilizations,

Noting that Nowruz, the day of vernal equinox, is celebrated as the beginning of the new year by more than 300 million people all around the world and has been celebrated for over 3,000 years in the Balkans, the Black Sea Basin, the Caucasus, Central Asia, the Middle East and other regions,

Stressing the importance of processes of mutual cultural enrichment and the necessity of promoting civilizational exchanges, which facilitate the development of international cooperation,

Mindful of the ever-increasing significance and relevance of a culture of living in harmony with nature, which is inherent in all civilizations in today's world,

Mindful also that Nowruz, as the embodiment of the unity of cultural heritage and centuries-long traditions, plays a significant role in strengthening the ties among peoples based on mutual respect and the ideals of peace and good-neighbourliness,

Bearing in mind that the foundations of the traditions and rituals of Nowruz reflect features of the cultural and ancient customs of the civilizations of East and West, which influenced those civilizations through the interchange of human values,

Noting the orientation of Nowruz towards the affirmation of life in harmony with nature, the awareness of the inseparable link between constructive labour and natural cycles of renewal and the solici ous and respectful attitude towards natural sources of life,

1. *Recognizes* 21 March as the International Day of Nowruz;

2. *Welcomes* the efforts of Member States where Nowruz is celebrated to preserve and develop the culture and traditions related to Nowruz;

3. *Encourages* Member States to make efforts to raise awareness about Nowruz and to organize annual events in commemoration of this festivity, as appropriate;

[5] See resolution 60/1.

4. *Calls upon* Member States where Nowruz is celebrated to study the origins and traditions of this festivity with a view to disseminating knowledge about the Nowruz heritage among the international community;

5. *Invites* interested Member States, the United Nations, in particular its relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes, mainly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and interested international and regional organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, to participate in events organized by States where Nowruz is celebrated.

71st plenary meeting
23 February 2010